Pulse

NEW ENGLAND DEACONESS HOSPITAL BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

JULY-AUGUST, 1965

THE NEW ENGLAND DEACONESS HOSPITAL AT NIGHT

A World of Its Own

"CHANGING OF THE GUARD" Left to right: Mrs. Chilla K. Merrill, Mrs. Norma A. Houghton, Mrs. A.M. Schurest, Miss Bernice C. Kelly, Miss Anne Davidson and Miss Barbara L. Delap.

The hospital at night is an interesting and exciting place. There is not as much obvious activity as there is in the daytime but the well known Deaconess "spirit" remains the same. Directly, or indirectly, everyone's first concern is the best possible care of the patient.

Administration

Mr. John F. Slayton, Night Administrator, is in charge of keeping everything running smoothly. He notes that "the routine of the hospital is never dull. It fluctuates wildly." In complete accord are his assistants, Mr. Stephen J. Green, Mr. David F. Lilley and Mr. William MacBurney.

Nursing

The nurses, graduate, licensed practical and student, carry on the tradition of giving an extra measure of thoughtful care. For example, Miss Karen L. Orff, staff nurse and a graduate of the Class of 1963 New England Deaconess School of Nursing, took a call from the anxious wife of a patient on Central III. She did not give the standard answer, "Patient resting comfortably." Instead she called the doctor in charge of the case and relayed the information he gave her to the wife. The operation had been successful and the patient was doing very well. The patients are grateful, too, for the extra measure of thoughtful care. One said, "I feel secure in the efficiency and pleasantness of the nurses," while another commented, "The doctors and nurses are a superior group."

During a lull in the activities at the Nursing Station in Central III, Mrs. Chilla K. Merrill, Night Supervisor of Nurses, checked the patients' charts with Miss Orff. Then on Deaconess IV, Mrs. Merrill, who has been affiliated with the New England Deaconess Hospital since 1952, reviewed the 'changing of the guard,' a period when the evening nurses report about their patients to the night nurses.

In addition to the nurses, aides and orderlies assist in patient care.

An Aide, Mrs. Doris E. Morgan of Roxbury, is representative of this group. She mentioned that she has enjoyed her work here very much during the last six and one-half years.

Communications

Many people are accountable for keeping the communications system functioning. Among them are Mrs. Mildred M. LeVangie, page board, and switchboard operators Mrs. Agnes B. Fitzgerald, Miss Agnes Kennedy and Miss Marion L. Sullivan. Miss Sullivan will enter the junior class at State College in Boston in the fall.

(Continued on Page 2)

ELLIOTT PROCTOR JOSLIN MEDAL AWARDED TO DR. HOWARD F. ROOT

The highlight of the twentieth annual meeting of the New England Diabetes Association, in the Riverway Terrace Room of the Medical Office Building on June 9, was the presentation of the Elliott Proctor Joslin Medal to Dr. Howard F. Root, Medical Director of the Joslin Clinic. The award was presented by Dr. C. Burns Roehrig, Association President.

Since 1962 the medal has been given each year to the man chosen as Joslin Lecturer for "distinguished achievement in the study of diabetes mellitus." In unusual circumstances an exception can be made, as it was this year when the Committee for the Joslin Lectures, with the approval of the Executive Committee, voted to present a special Joslin Medal to Dr. Root.

Dr. Root, a native of Ottumwa, Iowa, was graduated from Harvard College and Harvard Medical School. He was House Officer at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and a May Fellow at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. He returned to Boston

(Continued on Page 4)

Mr. Stephen J. Green (seated) and Mr. John F. Slayton.

Clinical Pathology

The Emergency Technicians from Clinical Pathology are a story in themselves, and a vital part of the hospital. They are medical students who work in the laboratories from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. seven times a month. Two of them are Mr. William T. Hyland, who does blood sugars, and Mr. Daniel D. Foote, who works in the Clinical Microscopy Laboratory.

Left to right: Miss Marian L. Sullivan and Mrs. Agnes B. Fitzgerald.

Mrs. Doris E. Morgan with patient.

Inhalation Therapy

The Inhalation Therapy Maintenance Room is in the process of renovation which does not hinder the work of Mr. George V. Muncey, Registered Inhalation Therapist, or Mr. Richard J. MacKay, Student Inhalation Therapist. Mr. Muncey, a Canadian, came to Boston and the New England Deaconess Hospital "in the hope of learning at the medical center of the world."

Mr. Daniel D. Foote

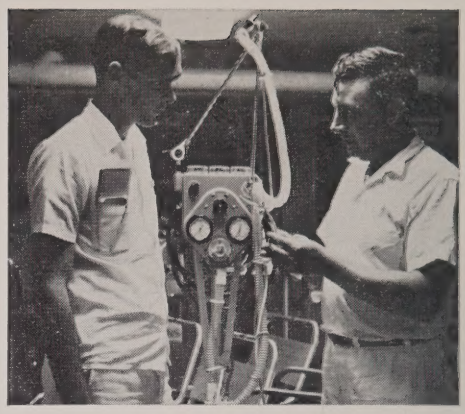
Doctors

Some lights were on at the Cancer Research Institute, one of them in the Experimental Pathology Laboratory. There Dr. Gilbert H. Friedell, Pathologist and Research Associate under Dr. Shields Warren, was examining a unique microscopic slide, unique because it was a 4 x 5 instead of the usual 1 x 3. The larger size makes possible the examination of a complete cross section of an organ. Dr. Friedell had a box of sour balls on his desk (no cigars, of course) for visitors to commemorate the birth of his fifth child on July 3.

Often doctors find the quieter evening hours a good time to catch up on desk work. In the Medical Records office Dr. Alan L. Pohl was using a dictaphone to record a discharge summary. He is a resident in General Surgery rotating through the Overholt Thoracic Clinic from the New England Center Hospital in Boston.

Maintenance

Mr. Raymond C. Bentley, Maintenance Mechanic, has one of the few keys that can open any door around the Deaconess. It is his job to be certain that the mechanical equipment is working properly and to take care of any emergency. One of his regular duties is to check the Powers Graph-O-Matic Control Center (air conditioning and heating unit) in the basement of the Medical Office Building.



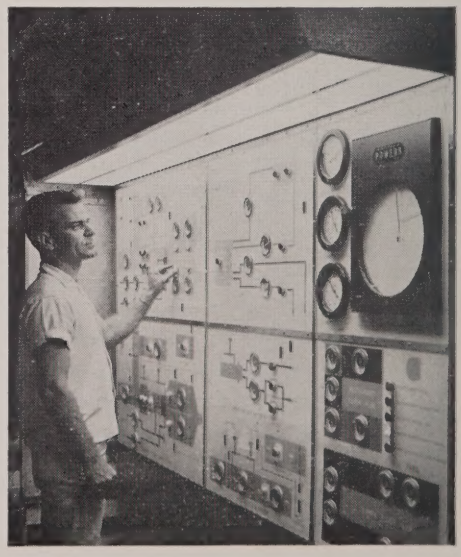
Mr. Richard J. Mac Kay (left) and Mr. George V. Muncey clean nebulizer on Bennett respirator.

Harris Hall

At Harris Hall Miss Hazel J. Constantine of Rumford, Maine, Class of 1967 at the School of Nursing, signed out for half an hour to have a coke with a friend, who is doing satellite research at M.I.T.

A little later Miss Grace H. Hawes, Dartmouth, Massachusetts and of the Class of 1965, came in from a bridal shower given for a classmate, Miss Elizabeth A. Ward who was married to Mr. George Ross on July 16. Miss Hawes returned with some party favors as well as a crabmeat sandwich and some cup cakes which she shared with the housemother.

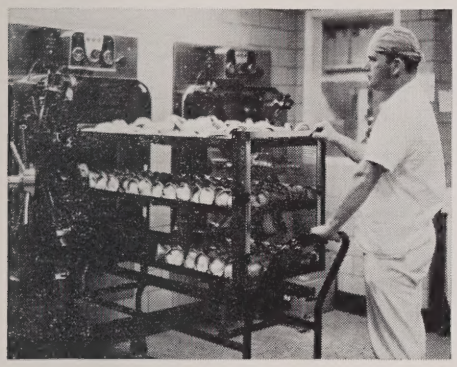
Housemothers work on a rotating basis. They are: Senior Housemother, Mrs. Clara Johansson and her assistants, Mrs. Vivian L. Carlson and Mrs. Edith D. MacNaughton.



Mr. Raymond C. Bentley at Powers Graph-O-Matic Control Center.

Central Supply

Here personnel are employed wrapping surgical kits, gloves and other supplies to be sterilized. Mr. Robert Smith is one of the Central Supply Aides engaged in this important work. He has been with the hospital for five years.

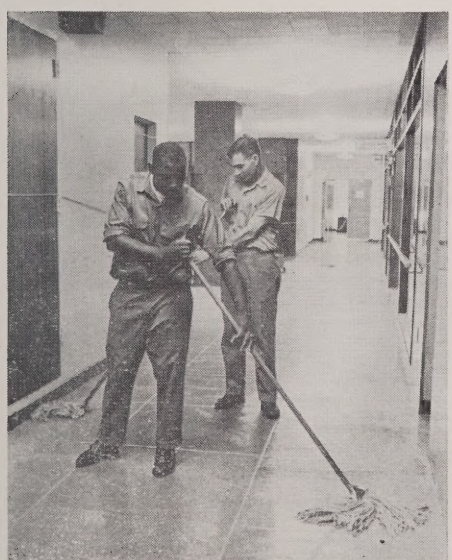


Mr. Robert Smith rolling cartons of cotton balls into autoclave for sterilization.

Housekeeping

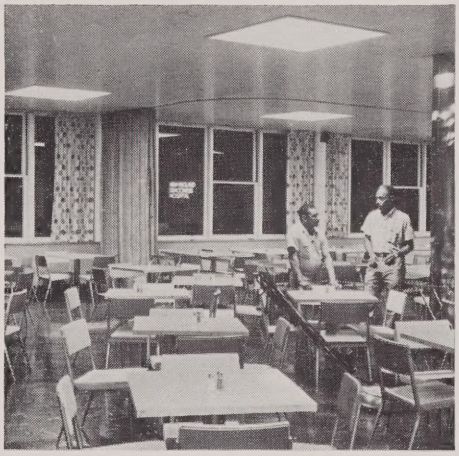
Housekeeping is a big part of the hospital at night where a phenomenal amount of cleaning is done to prepare everything for the new day.

At Central I Mr. Ernest N. Kelley and Mr. Harold J. Marcott were washing the floor, mops swinging in unison as every square inch was cleaned. About the same time the Night Supervisor of Housekeeping in Central, Mr. Henry L. Syms and his assistant, Mr. Lewis H. Jefferson were finishing up in the Cafeteria and kitchen. Soon the bakers would arrive to prepare the baked goods for the next day.



Mr. Ernest H. Kelley (left) and Mr. Harold J. Marcott.

Mr. William H. Guest is Night Supervisor of Housekeeping at the Medical Office Building. He came here ten years ago from Jonesboro, Arkansas. Members of his staff include Mr. Elmer Curry who buffs the corridors and Mrs. Mary A. Torner, Mrs. Leonie B. LeBrun and Mrs. Nora A. Coughlin who clean the doctors offices. All three women share the opinion that "everybody at the Deaconess is very nice. We love it here."



Mr. Lewis H. Jefferson (left) and Mr. Henry L. Syms finish in Cafeteria.

Central Information Desk

There is much hustle and bustle around the Central Information Desk . . . Mr. Thomas Sarsfield, special delivery postman from the Back Bay Post Office delivers medicine, doctors call for assignments and nurses sign in. Mrs. Priscilla B. Arnold and Mr. Alan L. Lewis, Information Clerks, agree that the job is far from dreary.

IBM 1440

On Deaconess V the IBM 1440 machine was in action. The men who operate it do not usually work at night except when they are testing out a new program which can be done more easily at night because of the lack of interruptions. Mr. Albert E. Smith,Data Processing Manager, was checking out a program at the console typewriter. Mr. Paul A. Babcock, Programmer, adjusted paper in the printer and Mr. Franklin R. Goldschmidt, Programmer, fed cards into the card reader. These men can interchange jobs with one another and their combined efforts keep the IBM 1440 working at top efficiency.

Security

Many of the people who work at night are able to spend many daylight hours out of doors. One avid vegetable gardener is Mr. James H. Neely, Security Officer for the past thirteen years. Officer Neely is among those who check seventy-five Detex Stations throughout the hospital. This is done with a small machine that he carries with him. He checks the security stations and the clock in his machine denotes the exact time each check is made on a tape concealed within the mechanism. Officer Neely lives in Marshfield, Massachusetts and is a retired Boston policeman. He checks for fires, leaks, unsanitary conditions, and protects the nurses to and from transportation facilities.

Mrs. Priscilla B. Arnold watches as nurses sign in prior to going on duty at 11:00 p.m. Left to right: Mrs. Olabelle B. Fergusen, Mrs. Corine Newton, Miss Christa Blockhaus and Miss Mary Jane O'Callahan.

Mr. James H. Neely

At the Medical Office Building Mr. Charles F. Hogan, Security Officer, was manning the desk for another officer who was checking the Guest Room floors. These men cover all the Deaconess complex which is under surveillance twenty-four hours a day.

Versatility

Mr. Slayton and Mr. Green were arranging an admission for a Joslin patient whose family had just been called indicating an emergency. Mr. Slayton referred to a card supplied by the switchboard to find that Dr. Alexander Marble was the Senior Joslin Clinic physician in charge that night. After calling Dr. Marble, admission for the patient was confirmed.

The phone rang again. As usual, it was not routine. Mr. Slayton was informed that Mrs. Alice Griffin, who is responsible for the Coffee Shop from 11:00 p.m. to 3 a.m. had become ill shortly after arriving for work and a replacement had to be found immediately. After making a few fruitless telephone calls Mr. Slayton took over in the Coffee Shop, Mr. Green attended the Information Desk, thus freeing Mrs. Arnold to help. The competence of these people plus the understanding and help of the customers, one of whom showed Mr. Slayton how to operate the Coffee Maker, made service in the Coffee Shop possible!

Those who work at night have a heavy responsibility for the welfare of the patients and the security and maintenance of the plant. Their willing cooperation, interest and adaptability is noteworthy. For this reason the *Pulse* gives a special tribute to the entire night staff in appreciation of their untiring efforts.

SCHOOL OF NURSING GRADUATION, SEPT. 13

Dr. Abram Leon Sachar, President of Brandeis University since 1948 when it was founded, will be guest speaker at the graduation exercises of the New England Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing on September 13. Graduation will take place at 8:15 p.m. in John Hancock Hall, and the Baccalaureate Service will be held at 8:00 p.m. on September 12 in the Daniel L. Marsh Chapel at Boston University, with the Reverend William D. Hudson, Minister of St. Mark's Methodist Church in Brookline, officiating.

Dr. Sachar, a native of St. Louis, Missouri, studied at Washington University and at Cambridge University in England, from which he received a Doctor's degree in history. Dr. Sachar joined the history staff at the University of Illinois and was one of the pioneers in the Hillel Foundation movement which started there.

The recipient of 14 honorary degrees from various universities, Dr. Sachar is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, serves on several boards in the fields of education and philanthropy, and has been named to the Boards of the Eleanor Roosevelt Commission and the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library. In spite of a busy schedule, Dr. Sachar still finds time to teach a class in contemporary history for, as he says, "Basically, I remain a teacher."

Mr. Hudson came to St. Mark's from the United Parish of Lunenburg, Massachusetts, where an experiment in uniting churches at the local level is receiving national attention. This may provide a possible solution to the problem of practical church unity. Active in civil rights, Mr. Hudson is a member of the Massachusetts Unity of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, District Director of Christian Social Concerns for the Boston District of the Methodist Church, and Secretary of the Commission on Ecumenical Affairs of the New England Conference of the Methodist Church.

He was graduated from West Virginia Wesleyan College and received his degree of Bachelor of Sacred Theology from Boston University, School of Theology.

Elliott Proctor Joslin Medal Awarded To Dr. Howard F. Root

Continued from Page 1)

in 1921 and started practice on Bay State Road. Dr. Root has been President of the Massachusetts Medical Society, the Massachusetts Society of Internal Medicine, the American Diabetes Association, and Physician-in-chief of the New England Deaconess Hospital. Currently he is President of the Diabetes Foundation

Dr. Howard F. Root, (right) Medical Director of the Joslin Clinic, accepts the New England Diabetes Association's Elliott Proctor Joslin Medal from Dr. C. Burns Roehrig, Association President.

and of the International Diabetes Foundation. Author of a number of texts and recipient of several honorary degrees, Dr. Root received the American Diabetes Association Banting Medal in 1951. He is an Honorary President of the New England Diabetes Association.

At the conclusion of his presentation speech, Dr. Roehrig said, "Vital statistics are fine, but they do not represent the whole story. . . . Behind the statistics is a very warm and friendly personality with great energy and great loyalty. He has great enthusiasm for and confidence in the future and what it will unfold medically."

NEW ENGLAND DEACONESS HOSPITAL
185 PILGRIM ROAD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02215

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
BOSTON, MASS.
Permit No. 59626